



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON VICENZA
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IMVI-SO

31 March 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Garrison Commanders Policy Memorandum #14-13; Bicycling, In-Line Skating, Skateboarding, and Heelys Safety

1. References:

a. Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 6055.4, Department of Defense Traffic Safety Program, 20 Apr 2009 with Change 1, 02 Apr 2010.

b. AR 385-10 The Army Safety Program (DTD 27 Nov 2013).

2. The purpose of this memorandum is to outline the requirements for operating bicycles on or off base. This memorandum also outlines the restrictions for in-line skating, skateboarding and the use of Heelys on and off post. This policy applies to all personnel assigned or operating within the Vicenza Military Community (VMC) to include, Military personnel, DoD Civilians, Family members, and contractors within the USAG Vicenza area of operations (AOR).

3. Pedestrians. To separate pedestrian and motor vehicle traffic to the maximum extent possible, pedestrians will use sidewalks when walking along post roads and streets. Pedestrians will cross roads and streets at the nearest marked crosswalk.

4. Bicycles.

a. Bicycle helmets, approved by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) will be worn by all personnel including Family members who ride bicycles on Army installations. Previously purchased bicycle helmets certified by the American Society for Testing and Materials may also be worn but when purchasing a new helmet, riders must purchase CPSC certified helmets. Outside CONUS riders may wear HN helmets if the helmet meets or exceeds CPSC standards (AR 385-10).

b. The Advanced Combat Helmet (ACH) and/or hard hat is not approved for use as a bicycle helmet.

c. Bicycle riders must wear helmets that fit properly and must have the chinstraps fastened. Children/infants riding on the same bicycle or riding in a (bicycle trailer) must also wear a helmet and use chinstraps.

d. When bicycling on roadways on DOD installations during hours of darkness or reduced visibility, bicycles will be equipped with operable headlights and taillights, and the bicyclist will wear a reflective upper outer garment.

e. High visibility/reflective clothing (PT Belt, Vest) will be worn at night, or during periods of limited visibility. The same type of clothing is recommended during daylight to assist in recognitions from other vehicle traffic.

f. The riding of bicycles on any sidewalk within the Base is prohibited. This provision does not apply to small children learning to ride bicycles with the use of training wheels.

g. Bicycles must be maintained IAW Italian Law (Codice Della Strada). This law requires bicycles to be equipped with a working head lamp (yellow or white), tail light (red), pedal reflective markings (yellow), and a bell.

h. Bicyclists will ride on the road in the same direction as vehicles.

5. In-Line Skating (Rollerblading) and Skateboarding On and Off Post.

a. The Vicenza Community Skate Park is located in Villaggio Housing Area. The Skate Park is the ONLY approved site for skateboarding, in-line skating, or trick bikes within the USAG Vicenza Community. Community streets and parking lots are not authorized for skateboarding, trick bikes, or in-line skating. The Community Skate Park is adjacent to the Villaggio above-ground swimming pool and is isolated from street traffic and contains approximately 5000 square feet of space to conduct various in-line skating, skateboard, and trick bike activities.

b. Soldiers, DOD Civilians, retirees, their dependants, and guests are eligible to use the Skate Park.

c. Skate Park rules and safety requirements must be followed at all times and are posted on the Skate Park entrance.

d. The use of protective gear is mandatory. Head injuries are the number one cause of disabling injuries for skaters. Helmets with chin straps fastened, knee pads, wrist guards and elbow guards will be worn by all individuals using the skate park.

e. In-line skating (rollerblading) or skateboarding is not authorized on Italian roads. Italian Law (Article 190/8-9-10) prohibits in-line skating or skateboarding on Italian roads. When conducting these activities at approved locations off post, all traffic signals, signs, and devices must be obeyed. Approved helmets and protective gear must be worn at all times and reflective garments must be worn during periods of reduced visibility.

6. Use of Heelys. The use of Heelys in any public or official building within the USAG Vicenza area of responsibility or the Community Skate Park in Villaggio is prohibited.


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7. Use of Headphones and Earphones. In accordance with DODI 6055.4, the use of portable headphones, earphones, cellular phones, iPods, or other listening and entertainment devices (other than hearing aids) while walking, jogging, running, bicycling, skating, or skateboarding on roadways on DOD installations is prohibited. These devices impair senses and mask or prevent recognition of emergency signals, alarms, announcements, approaching vehicles, and human speech.

8. All community members are responsible for implementing this policy and enforcing the standards.

9. POC for this memorandum is USAG Vicenza Safety Office at DSN 634-8109/7045.


ROBERT L. MENIST, JR.
COL, IN
Commanding

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